United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea SPLOS/321

Meeting of States Parties

Distr.: General
11 June 2018

Original: English

Twenty-eighth Meeting
New York, 11–14 June 2018

Agenda

1. Opening of the twenty-eighth Meeting by the President of the twenty-seventh Meeting.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Election of the President.
4. Adoption of the agenda.
5. Election of the Vice-Presidents.
6. Appointment of the Credentials Committee.
7. Organization of work.
8. Report of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea to the Meeting of States Parties for 2017 (SPLOS/317).
9. Information reported by the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority.
10. Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (SPLOS/319):
    (a) Information reported by the Chair of the Commission;
    (b) Conditions of service of the members of the Commission;
    (c) Filling of a vacancy in the Commission.
11. Consideration of budgetary matters of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea:
    (a) Report on budgetary matters for the financial periods 2015–2016 and 2017–2018 (SPLOS/318);
    (b) Draft budget proposals of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for the financial period 2019–2020 (SPLOS/2018/WP.1).
12. Report of the Credentials Committee.
13. Reports of the Secretary-General under article 319 for the information of States parties on issues of a general nature, relevant to States parties, which have arisen with respect to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (A/72/70/Add.1 and A/73/68).
14. Other matters.

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Meeting of States Parties

Distr.: General
12 June 2018

Original: English

Twenty-eighth Meeting
New York, 11–14 June 2018

Decisions on budgetary matters of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2019–2020

1. The Meeting of States Parties, having considered the draft budget proposals of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2019–2020 (SPLOS/2018/WP.1), approved the amount of €20,521,200 as the budget of the Tribunal for 2019–2020, on the basis of annex I to the above-mentioned document and in the light of a decrease of €28,500 in the budget line "Pension in payment", as indicated by the Registrar in his report to the Meeting.

2. Pursuant to regulation 5.3 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Tribunal (SPLOS/120), the contributions of States parties for each of the two years of the biennium 2019–2020 shall be determined on the basis of half of the appropriations adopted by the Meeting of States Parties for that financial period.

3. The Meeting took note with satisfaction of the report on budgetary matters for the financial periods 2015–2016 and 2017–2018 (SPLOS/318). On the basis of that report, the Meeting noted that the cash surplus for the financial period 2015–2016 amounted to –€183,676 and that, since that amount is negative, no funds would be surrendered to States parties, in accordance with financial regulation 4. In this respect, the Meeting drew the attention of the States Parties to the need to pay their contributions in full and in a timely manner.

4. The Meeting requested the Registrar to submit a report, at its next meeting, on the future projections of the section of the budget relating to judges' pension scheme, on the basis of the decision on Pension Scheme Regulations for Members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (SPLOS/47) and other relevant decisions taken by the Meeting of States Parties.

5. The Meeting encouraged the Registrar to continue to manage the funds prudently and efficiently, seeking to achieve optimum utilization of the financial resources of the Tribunal.

6. The Meeting authorized the Registrar to make transfers between appropriation sections pursuant to financial regulation 4.6, to the extent that that was necessary to cover expenses relating to cases submitted to the Tribunal.

7. The Meeting decided that, without prejudice to the application of the provisions of article 19 of annex VI to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in respect of future budgets of the Tribunal regarding the contribution to be made by the

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International Seabed Authority, the budget of the Tribunal for 2019–2020 would be financed by all States parties to the Convention. The European Union indicated that its agreed contribution to the budget of the Tribunal would be €92,500 for each year.

8. The Meeting also decided that a floor rate of 0.01 per cent and a ceiling rate of 22 per cent were to be used in establishing the rate of assessment of States parties for the budget of the Tribunal for 2019–2020.

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Credentials of representatives to the twenty-eighth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chairperson: Mr. Øyvind **Hernes** (Norway)

1. On 11 June 2018, the twenty-eighth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea appointed, on the proposal of the President, a credentials committee consisting of the following States parties: China, Finland, Ghana, Lesotho, Myanmar, Norway and Ukraine.

2. The Credentials Committee met on 12 June 2018, and elected Øyvind Hernes (Norway) as Chairperson and Daryna Horbachova (Ukraine) as Vice-Chairperson, by acclamation.

3. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretariat, dated 12 June 2018, on the status of credentials of representatives of States parties participating in the twenty-eighth Meeting.

4. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum of 12 June 2018, formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by a person authorized by either of them had been received by the Secretariat for the representatives of the following 69 States parties participating in the twenty-eighth Meeting: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Myanmar, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

5. As noted in paragraph 2 of the memorandum of 12 June 2018, provisional information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in the twenty-eighth Meeting, including representatives of the European Union, had been

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communicated to the Secretary-General by the following 43 States parties: Algeria, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Chile, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, European Union, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Spain, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yemen.

6. The Chairperson proposed that the Committee accept the credentials of all the representatives mentioned in the memorandum by the Secretariat on the understanding that formal credentials of the representatives referred to in paragraph 2 of the memorandum would be communicated to the Secretariat as soon as possible. The following draft resolution was proposed by the Chairperson for adoption by the Committee:

The Credentials Committee,

Having examined the credentials of the representatives of States parties participating in the twenty-eighth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea referred to in the memorandum of the Secretariat dated 12 June 2018,

Accepts the credentials of the representatives concerned.

7. The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

8. Subsequently, the Chairperson proposed that the Committee recommend to the twenty-eighth Meeting the adoption of a draft decision (see para. 10 below). The proposal was adopted without a vote.

9. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the twenty-eighth Meeting.

Recommendation of the Credentials Committee

10. The Credentials Committee recommends to the twenty-eighth Meeting the adoption of the following draft decision:

Credentials of representatives of States parties participating in the twenty-eighth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

The twenty-eighth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea approves the report of the Credentials Committee on the understanding that the credentials of the representatives of States parties participating in the twenty-eighth Meeting will continue to be valid until the termination of the twenty-eighth Meeting, in accordance with rule 1 of the rules of procedure for meetings of States parties.